training in craft/vocational education and practical training in agriculture, horticulture, poultry and related subjects.

Education and employment for poor women

†267. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any programme has been formulated or proposed to be formulated by Government to provide education and opportunities of employment for the welfare of poor, widowed and destitute women;

(b) if so, the details of the centres where these programmes are running, State-wise;

(c) the number of its women beneficiaries during each of the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the details of the funds allotted during the current Five Year Plan and the State-wise details of the funds utilized till date out of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The scheme of STEP aims to provide employment to poor assetless women in traditional sectors by upgrading skills and other support services.

Swablamban Scheme (which stands transferred to States with effect from 1.4.2006) also provided training and skill development to women to facilitate their employment.

The Scheme of Swayhamsidha provides training for income generation activities to women beneficiaries.

(b) and (c) The State-wise details of centres and beneficiaries are available in the Annual Reports of the Ministry and also on the Ministry's *website www.wcd.nic.in.*

(d) The Budget Outlay for the Annual Plan 2007-08 is Rs. 20.00 crore for the STEP Scheme and Rs. 50.90 crore for Swayamsidha Scheme. The fund utilization will be available at the end of the financial year of the Annual Plan 2007-08.

Female foeticide

268. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVLEOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the cases of female foeticide during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to launch Palana Yojana to prevent the increasing incidents of female foeticide;

(c) if so, the outline of this proposed Yojana.

(d) whether Government have proposed to set up Palana centres in each district of the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and by when they are likely to be set up and made operational?

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) As per information supplied by National Crime Records Bureau, gender-wise information of foeticide is not maintained.

(b) to (e) Ministry of Women and Child Devlopment has formulated a centrally sponsored scheme – 'Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)' for implementation during 11th Plan Period of which 'Palana Yojana' is one component. This scheme envisages the setting up of 'Cradle Baby Reception Centres' in each district. There is also provision to link these Reception Centres to Cradle Points at Primary Health Care Centres. Hospitals/Nursing Homes, Swadhar Units, Short Stay Homes and in the office of the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) to receive abandoned babies.

Anganwadi centres

269. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Anganwadi centres in the country, State-wise;

(b) the total number of children benefited under the Integrated Child Development Services during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether a large number of Anganwadis do not have the necessary infrastructure like building, drinking water, toilets, weighing machines, furniture, etc.;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) The number of sanctioned and operational AWCs State/UT-wise as on 31.3.2007 and the total number of children benefited under ICDS during the last three years is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) and (d) State-wise details as per available data for 19 States are at Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) To augment the infrastructural facilities in the AWCs, the Government is seeking assistance through convergence with the following schemes of the line Ministries:—

- Total Sanitation Campaign and Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme – Department of Drinking Water Supply.
- Backward Region Grant Fund – Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- Scheduled Caste Sub Plan – Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- Tribal Area Sub plan – Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- MPLD – Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.